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# Basin 15

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## Colorado–Lavaca Coastal

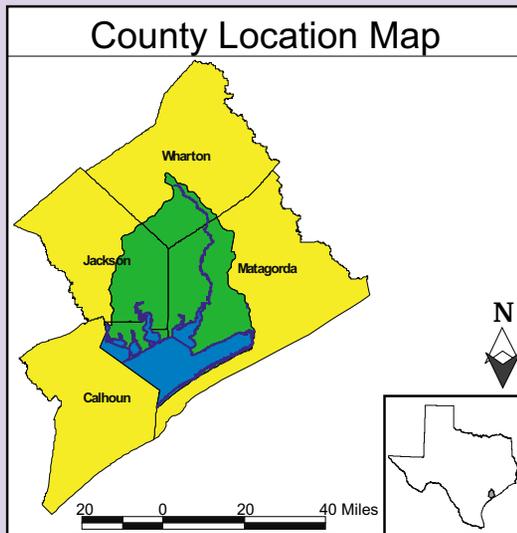
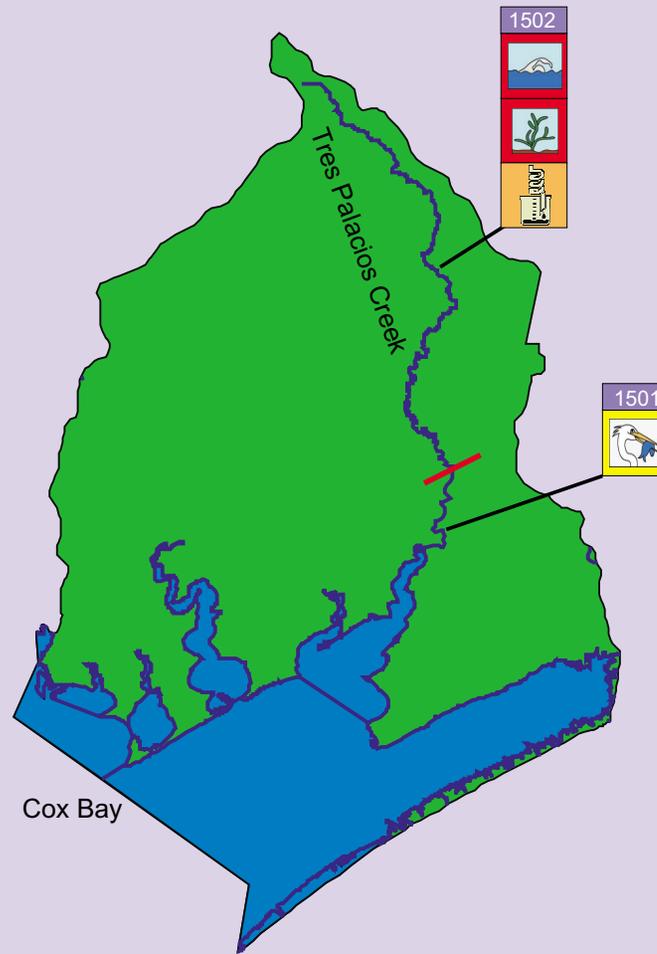


## **Colorado–Lavaca Coastal Basin Narrative Summary**

The basin lies on the coastal plains between the Colorado and Lavaca Rivers. The average elevation in the basin is less than 50 feet. Tres Palacios Creek is the principal drainage system in the basin. The total area of the basin is 939 square miles. Tres Palacios Creek has been divided into two segments, which are routinely monitored at one location in each segment.

Tres Palacios Creek Tidal periodically experiences low dissolved oxygen concentrations. The above tidal portion of the creek has elevated nutrient, bacteria, and dissolved solids concentrations. This basin is primarily agricultural.

# Colorado-Lavaca Coastal Basin Identified Water Quality Issues





# Colorado–Lavaca Coastal Basin Graphical Summary

Basin Map	Water Bodies									
	Segment 1501 Tres Palacios Creek Tidal	Segment 1502 Tres Palacios Creek Above Tidal								
<b>DESIGNATED USE SUPPORT</b>										
Contact Recreation	S	N								
Noncontact Recreation	X	X								
Public Water Supply	X	X								
<b>Fish Consumption</b>										
Human Health	NA	NA								
Advisories/Closures	NA	NA								
<b>Aquatic Life</b>										
Dissolved Oxygen (Grab)	P	S								
Dissolved Oxygen (24-Hour)	P	S								
Metals in Water	NA	NA								
Organics in Water	NA	NA								
Water Toxicity Tests	NA	NA								
Sediment Toxicity Tests	NA	NA								
Macrobenthos	NA	NA								
Fish	NA	NA								
<b>GENERAL USE SUPPORT</b>										
Water Temperature	S	S								
pH	S	S								
Chloride	X	S								
Sulfate	X	S								
Total Dissolved Solids	X	N								

S = Support; P = Partial Support; N = Nonsupport; T = Threatened; NC = No Concern; C = Concern;  
 NA = Not Assessed; X = Not Applicable

**Colorado–Lavaca Coast Basin Graphical Summary (Continued)**

Basin Map	Water Bodies									
	Segment 1501 Tres Palacios Creek Tidal	Segment 1502 Tres Palacios Creek Above Tidal								
										
<b>WATER QUALITY CONCERNS</b>										
Contact Recreation	X	X								
Noncontact Recreation	X	X								
Fish Tissue	NA	NA								
Sediment	NA	NA								
Narrative	NC	NC								
<b>Nutrient Enrichment</b>										
Ammonia Nitrogen	NC	NC								
Nitrite + Nitrate Nitrogen	NC	C								
Orthophosphorus	NC	NC								
Total Phosphorus	NC	NC								
Chlorophyll <i>a</i>	NC	NC								
<b>Public Water Supply</b>										
Finished Water Chloride	X	X								
Finished Water Sulfate	X	X								
Finished Water TDS	X	X								
Surface Water Chloride	X	X								
Surface Water Sulfate	X	X								
Surface Water TDS	X	X								
<b>Aquatic Life</b>										
Dissolved Oxygen	X	X								
Metals in Water	NA	NA								
Organics in Water	NA	NA								
Water Toxicity Tests	NA	NA								
Sediment Toxicity Tests	NA	NA								

# Colorado–Lavaca Coastal Basin

## Segment 1501 - Tres Palacios Creek Tidal

**Water body description:** From the confluence with Tres Palacios Bay in Matagorda County to a point 1.0 km (0.6 miles) upstream of the confluence of Wilson Creek in Matagorda County

**Water body classification:** Classified

**Water body type:** Tidal Stream

**Water body length / area:** 8.00 Miles

**Use support summary:** The aquatic life use is partially supported due to depressed dissolved oxygen concentrations. The contact recreation and general uses are supported. The fish consumption use was not assessed due to insufficient data.

**Water quality concerns summary:** Available data indicate that there are no water quality concerns.

**Additional information:** A project is scheduled for dissolved oxygen to do one or more of the following: assess the relevant water quality standard; to confirm the impairment; to conduct a total maximum daily load (TMDL) to evaluate the causes and sources and allocate the allowable loading; or to correct the impairment under another program. For more information on specific TMDL projects, visit the TNRCC Web site at [www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/water/quality/tmdl/](http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/water/quality/tmdl/).

### Monitoring sites used in the assessment

Station	Station Description
12515	Tres Palacios Creek Tidal at FM 521 east of Palacios

### Wastewater dischargers

Permit type	Number of outfalls
Domestic	1

# Colorado–Lavaca Coastal Basin

## Segment 1502 - Tres Palacios Creek Above Tidal

**Water body description:** From a point 1.0 km (0.6 miles) upstream of the confluence of Wilson Creek in Matagorda County to US 59 in Wharton County

**Water body classification:** Classified

**Water body type:** Freshwater Stream

**Water body length / area:** 34.00 Miles

**Use support summary:** The contact recreation use is not supported due to elevated fecal coliform densities. The aquatic life use is supported. General uses are not supported due to the elevated average total dissolved solids concentration. The fish consumption use was not assessed due to insufficient data.

**Water quality concerns summary:** Nitrite + nitrate nitrogen is a concern.

**Additional information:** Projects are scheduled for fecal coliform bacteria and total dissolved solids to do one or more of the following: assess the relevant water quality standard; to confirm the impairment; to conduct a total maximum daily load (TMDL) to evaluate the causes and sources and allocate the allowable loading; or to correct the impairment under another program. For more information on specific TMDL projects, visit the TNRCC Web site at [www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/water/quality/tmdl/](http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/water/quality/tmdl/).

### Monitoring sites used in the assessment

Station	Station Description
12517	Tres Palacios Creek at FM 456 east of Midfield

### Wastewater dischargers

Permit type	Number of outfalls
Domestic	2
Industrial	2